



North Carolina General Assembly

300 N. Salisbury Street, Room 613
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May 19, 2011

Federal Communications Commission
Chairman Julius Genachowski
Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell
Commissioner Meredith Attwell Baker
Commissioner Mignon Clyburn
445 12th Street SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: WT Docket 11-65

Dear Mr. Chairman and Commissioners:

As an elected official and Deputy Democratic Leader of the North Carolina House of Representatives, I realize it is easy for people not directly involved in complex issues to oversimplify them. I trust I am not falling into that trap in telling you that the AT&T - T-Mobile merger appears to be a textbook example of a merger in the public interest.

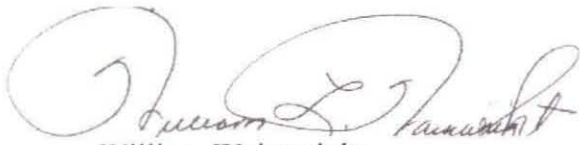
It would put the deployment of 4G LTE wireless broadband capacity on fast forward, extending it in real time to beyond 97 percent of America's population. In my view, the advanced technology it offers would only increase the intensity of competition in the wireless field. The aspect of this merger which I find particularly compelling, however, is its potential effect on underserved minority communities in North Carolina.

People whose families suffered generations of outright discrimination are still struggling for equal economic opportunity. They are already living on the wrong side of the digital divide and surging technology will only make the divide wider if they do not get access to it.

Access is not an issue if the merger goes ahead. Every town and rural county in North Carolina will get access to the most advanced wireless broadband technology. Sometimes technology can support both social and economic justice. This is one of those times.

Please give this merger your support.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William Wainwright". The signature is fluid and stylized, with large loops and a long, sweeping tail.

William Wainwright
State Representative